

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 06772 051635Z

43

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 NSC-05 CIEP-02

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 XMB-04 OPIC-06 LAB-04

SIL-01 L-02 H-02 AGR-10 IO-10 PA-02 PRS-01 SSO-00

INRE-00 NSCE-00 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-09 /155 W

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O R 051622Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0837

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

UNCLAS LONDON 06772

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, JM

SUBJ: UK PROPOSAL FOR COMMODITIES--PRIME MINISTER

WILSON'S PRESS CONFERENCE

REF: LONDON 6708

1. FCO GAVE US TRANSCRIPT OF PRIME MINISTER WILSON'S MAY 1, 1975 PRESS CONFERENCE ON MAY 5. WHILE THIS SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN DRAWN UPON BY LOCAL PRESS, FULL TEXT HAS NOT BEEN PUBLISHED HERE. EXCERPTS BELOW ARE PROVIDED AS BACKSTOPPING IN CONNECTION WITH FORTHCOMING VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER:

(A) CONCERNING PRIOR CONSULTATIONS ON PLAN--"NATURALLY, WE HAVE HAD CONSULTATIONS ABOUT OUR PROPOSALS BUT WE HAVE NOT SUBMITTED THEM OR SHOWN THEM TO THEM IN DETAIL.

WITH REGARD TO PRESIDENT FORD, SOME OF THE IDEAS WHICH I PUT FORWARD THIS MORNING CAME UP IN A DISCUSSION WE WERE HAVING IN WASHINGTON AND I THEN PUT FORWARD ONE OR TWO OF THESE IDEAS TO HIM - QUOTE OFF-THE-CUFF UNQUOTE AND, OF COURSE, I HAVE DISCUSSED THEM

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PAGE 02 LONDON 06772 051635Z

WITH PREMIER TRUDEAU AND A NUMBER OF COMMONWEALTH PRIME

MINISTERS WHO VISITED LONDON RECENTLY, BUT I DID NOT ATTEMPT TO GET CLEARANCE FOR THEM WITH ANY OUTSIDE BODY."

(B) ON GUYANA PROPOSAL FOR STUDY GROUP--"BUT I WANT TO SAY RIGHT AWAY - BECAUSE I AM NOT COMING BACK AFTER HIM FOR YOU TO PUT THIS QUESTION - I WANT TO SAY RIGHT AWAY THAT I FELT THAT THE PROCEDURAL PROPOSALS HE MADE AT THE END - WE REGARD AS HELPFUL AND A GOOD WAY TO PROCEED. THESE ARE PROPOSALS FOR A STUDY BY AN EXPERT GROUP REPORTING BACK TO THE COMMONWEALTH FINANCE MINISTERS WHEN THEY MEET LATER THIS YEAR. WE SHALL NATURALLY WANT TO CONSIDER VERY CAREFULLY THE TERMS OF REFERENCE TO SEE THEY ARE NOT LOADED IN ANY PARTICULAR WAY, BUT IT DOES PROVIDE A FORUM, AS HE SAID, FOR EXAMINING MY PROPOSALS AND HIS AND ANY OTHERS THAT MAY BE PUT."

(C) NEXT STEPS ON COMMODITY ISSUE--"IN MY SPEECH THIS MORNING I SAID I THOUGHT WE OUGHT TO TRY AND CLEAR OUR HEADS ANYWAY, WHICH HIS PROPOSAL WILL DO, BEFORE THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS LATER IN THE YEAR AND THAT PERHAPS OUR AIM SHOULD BE TO HAVE A CLEAR AND AS FAR AS POSSIBLE UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED SET OF PROPOSALS FOR UNCTAD 4 WHEN IT MEETS IN NAIROBI. BUT I AM NOT HARD AND FAST ABOUT THAT. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF FORA WHERE THIS CAN BE EXPLORED AND I AM NOT FUSSY ABOUT WHICH ONE AS LONG AS WE CHOOSE THE ONE, OR THE NUMBER OF THEM, THAT MAKE THE GREATEST AND SPEEDIEST ADVANCE."

(D) ON PRODUCER PROCESSING OF RAW MATERIALS--"FOR HELPING THEM DEVELOP THE PROCESSING OF THEIR OWN RAW MATERIALS. I SAID QUOTE THE ALMIGHTY UNQUOTE . . . OR SOMETHING LIKE THIS . . . THE ALMIGHTY WAS HEARD A LOT THIS MORNING. MR. BURNHAM QUOTED HIM SEVERAL TIMES . . . WE ALL HAD OUR QUOTATIONS ABSOLUTELY RIGHT; BUT THE ALMIGHTY DID NOT SAY THAT COUNTRIES THAT PRODUCE RAW MATERIALS OR THE BASIC FOODSTUFFS SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO PROCESS THEM AND THAT THEY HAVE GOT TO BE TAKEN ACROSS THE SEA AND PROCESSED SOMEWHERE ELSE. THERE COULD BE GREAT HELP THERE I THINK ON TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGICAL EXPERTISE TO ENABLE PRIMARY COUNTRIES TO

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PAGE 03 LONDON 06772 051635Z

PROCESS MORE OF THEIR OWN RAW MATERIALS INSTEAD OF RELYING ENTIRELY ON EXPORT MARKETS."

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LONDON06772
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750157-0151
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750581/aaaacwj.jtel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LONDON 6708
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 JUL 2003 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <03 MAR 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UK PROPOSAL FOR COMMODITIES--PRIME MINISTER WILSON'S PRESS CONFERENCE
TAGS: OCON, JM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006